



## SAUGEEN SHORES FIRE DEPARTMENT

*Ed Melanson- Fire Chief / CEMC*  
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Re: Southampton Two Zone Floodplain Management Concept Update

From an emergency management and public safety perspective, the proposed Two Zone Floodplain Management Concept is generally supported, as it provides clearer delineation between areas of high life safety risk (floodway) and areas where conditional development may occur (flood fringe), while maintaining regulatory controls tied to evacuation, ingress/egress, and hydraulic safety thresholds.

The approach improves predictability for emergency operations and aligns with best practices used in other communities within the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority watershed.

The modelling confirms that under the approved 70% encroachment scenario, no new areas within municipal rights of way would experience flood depths of 0.3 m or greater, which is a critical threshold for safe vehicular access during emergencies.

Emergency management supports the continued application of additional setbacks from watercourses and the prohibition of encroachment within valley and shoreline hazard areas, as these measures reduce the risk of infrastructure damage and service disruption during flood events.

In summary, emergency management supports the implementation of the Two Zone Floodplain Management Concept, subject to continued emphasis on:

- Life safety as the overriding principle;
- Protection of emergency access and evacuation routes;
- Ongoing coordination with SVCA and internal departments;
- Integration of updated mapping into emergency response and preparedness programs.

The proposed approach strengthens the Town's ability to balance growth objectives with public safety and emergency response readiness.

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